

Wildlife Act Review

Submission Comment 292:

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Primary interests:

- Protection and conservation of wildlife and habitat
- Offences and penalties relating to wildlife
- Wildlife welfare

Comment

It is disheartening to see that many species of wildlife have become extinct and others are often treated with contempt and indifference. There seems to be a colonialist viewpoint centered around agriculture still prevalent today.

Species such as macro-pods and dingoes are viewed as pests or products to profit from by landholders, developers, meat processing industries, and government agencies.

Authority To Control Wildlife permits are too easy to obtain. A land owner need only tick a box and call a shooter to slaughter wildlife on their land. There must be alternatives with the rights and welfare of all individuals in the mob the prime consideration.

Alternatives could include:

provision within the Act to have inspectors who can gather data and evidence in order to assess whether the impact on the property actually justifies management

government subsidies for land holders to use more humane methods such as fertility intervention and fencing that won't injure animals when they travel.

Penalties for abuse, neglect, and destruction of wildlife and habitat should be increased significantly and be reviewed regularly to ensure they align with Australian and international best practice.

Wildlife corridors must be protected to ensure animals are not trapped by development.

Duck shooting should be banned.

Research data used in decision making should be independent, up to date, and therefore not merely reflect the views of stakeholders and other parties with vested interests when considering management of ANY wildlife species whether indigenous or introduced.

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